PTO

#5/A
3-29-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of	:	**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**
Eric LENGLET et al.	:	Examiner: Unassigned
Serial No.: Unassigned	:	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: Herewith	:	

For: PROCESS AND DEVICE FOR PRODUCTION OF ELECTRICITY IN A FUEL CELL BY OXIDATION OF HYDROCARBONS FOLLOWED BY A FILTRATION OF PARTICLES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants wish to amend the above-identified application as indicated below:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A process for the production of electricity in a fuel cell from hydrocarbons, comprising a partial oxygenation stage of hydrocarbons, said process comprising

a) providing a stream (1) containing a hydrocarbon feedstock having boiling points less than about 400°C,

b) preheating said stream to a temperature of at least 200°C, so that said stream is entirely evaporated to form a hydrocarbon gaseous stream,

c) preheating an air-carrying gaseous oxidant stream (2) to a temperature of at least 400°C,

d) reacting the hydrocarbon gaseous stream with the preheated air-carrying gaseous stream in a partial oxidation zone (3) or chamber, under operating conditions in the following ranges:

(i) dwell time in the chamber of between 100 and 1200 milliseconds,

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